

Monterey

Notes by Eddie and Dick Stoiber Sept. 1, 1984

Minor modifications and an addendum since

Louis Stoiber, Dick's grandfather, spent one or more summers in the early 1890's in Lenox in the Berkshires. During this time, perhaps in 1892 or thereabouts, he drove over in a horse and carriage to Monterey with his son Edwin, Dick's father, and perhaps Arthur, Dick's uncle. They boarded at the Sears' farm, located across Highway 23 from the present Stoiber land. Sometime after this, quite probably between 1890 and 1895, Louis bought a lake lot opposite the cottage at the sharp turn at the west end of Bidwell Road. (The name of the road was changed from Lake to Bidwell perhaps in the 1950's). I don't know how soon after this he bought property opposite Sears. The house he built on the property opposite Sears was called Roundtop and I think, later, Lakewood Terrace. The house burned down in the mid-1930's. Webb had a cottage near the lake in front of our present cottage, nearer the lake than Anderson's cottage is now. It burned (an oilstove overturned) in perhaps 1905. You can see burn scars even today on the sides of the tall pines which must have faced the fire. Louis Stoiber bought the property. The fact that the lake property was bought separately from the main road lots is why their boundaries don't match up. (Some of the dates of these purchases may be found in some old deeds in the Ancestor stuff in my Norwich bedroom closet. One day I shall look and incorporate the information here.) The coming to Monterey and the purchase of property was because Louis Stoiber knew a group of New York ministers and others, probably in connection with his interest in the Legal Aid society. Rev. Elsing may have been the moving force in the land subdivision called Garfield Park. The lots Louis Stoiber bought were part of this. Rev. Elsing's house was the one on the main road just east of the eastern intersection of Bidwell Rd. and Route 23.

In 1914, I think, (or perhaps 1915) the barn of Roundtop which stood where the garage is now, was moved across the road and remodelled into a cottage. Dick's mother, Edna, told the builder how to fix it over very simply. It, like many cottages at this time, had a name but I cannot recall what it was. It might have been Lake View. The name hung over the roadside door. There have been very few changes since the cottage was remodelled from the barn: electricity in the 1930's, sealing in the upstairs by my grandfather in the thirties and electric refrigeration instead of ice from the ice house in this same period, a change from oil to gas for cooking in 1942, and a telephone in the 1960's, a second telephone in 1992. Jimmy Martin, whose son was later Postmaster of Monterey, built the fireplace. Almost surely Ed Whitney of Hartsville did the carpentry work. A little later Dick Bidwell built china closets and wood boxes at Edna P. Stoiber's (Dick's mother's) request. Dick Bidwell's parents lived next door in Pine Shores and Dick and Evelyn, his wife, lived down in the small house in the woods, in 1984, Carmichael's. Sometime around 1918 The Pines was built as a playhouse for Richard by his grandfather. It was built by adding to a lean-to-like half of a chicken house which leaned against the back of the ice house.. One summer in the twenties Amy Corrigan, a friend of my mother's,